

CONVICT PEN COLLAPSES; 4 KILLED, MANY INJURED

BUILDING SLID DOWN MOUNTAIN

Victims Held by Shackles at
Mercy of Logs.

RIVAL ROAD BRINGS HELP

Tennessee and North Carolina
Railroad Officials Offered
Every Assistance and Ran
Special Trains to Water-
ville.—New Camp is to Be
Constructed by Transcon-
tinental Road.

Four of the North Carolina convicts who were brought into Newport ten days ago and put to work in the mountain pass above Waterville met instant death, twelve were seriously injured and fourteen convicts and three guards sustained minor injuries in the collapse of their pen early Sunday morning. The convicts were being worked by the State of North Carolina as their contribution toward the construction of the Trans-Continental railroad. The men who were killed were: Albert Wynn of Goldsboro, N. C., serving sentence of 10 years for receiving stolen goods. Will Green of Raleigh, N. C., serving sentence of four years for murder. Henry Paul of Newburn, N. C., serving sentence of three years for larceny. Clarence Walker of Western North Carolina, serving sentence of seven years for larceny.

All four of the men had but a few months of their time to serve, one or two being due to leave the camp in August.

Capt. J. E. Hoskins of Raleigh who was in charge of the prisoners went down with the pen, and had to be dug from the debris, suffering several painful injuries. He stated shortly after the extrication of the imprisoned men that he would immediately upon his return to Asheville plead for the full pardon of three negroes for heroic work done in connection with the work of rescue. Guards J. E. Nichols and Ed McKerney who were in the pen when the collapse came also suffered slight injuries, but reporting remarkable escapes from death.

When the convicts were brought in to this section, they were taken to Waterville and then marched over the trail to a point about one half mile above the celebrated Black Hawk cliff, where a pen had been constructed of heavy timbers, the supports not only being of heavy logs, but the ceiling being constructed of the same material, it being easier to use a whole log than to saw lumber in that section. The building was 30 x 80 feet, and next to the side of the mountains its underpinnings were about six feet in length, while to the rear, the supports were 28 feet in length. The building was top heavy and some fear of its safety had been expressed but those in charge considered that the great heavy timbers would hold any weight which could be taken into it. The building was divided into three parts, one end for the kitchen, a small room where the outer guard sat with his eye and gun glued to a hole looking into the pen and the pen proper in which one guard was kept at all times. Shortly after breakfast had been served Sunday

morning Guard Nichols who was locked up with the men, felt something give away under the building. He reported the matter immediately to the outer guard, but Capt. Hoskins who was in the kitchen stated that he thought it was a rock which had rolled against one of the supports. Nichols had just time to walk to the opposite side of the building when the crash came. The thought which came to the two guards was that there was an avalanche and that great rocks were coming down the mountain sweeping them before it. When the progress of the building had been arrested by the trees below, Nichols crawled the entire eighty feet on his stomach, finally becoming wedged in between two of the logs, from which it required considerable work to extricate him.

Jim Steele, one of the negroes not seriously hurt was started for Waterville as soon as Capt. Hoskins could get his bearings. Twenty six men were imprisoned at the time and it was feared that all were dead or dying and the negro made a fast run over the mountains and brought assistance to the scene and the prisoners all of whom were wearing the ball and chain were extricated with much difficulty. Four had met instant death, three looked as though they were near to death and practically every man had sustained more or less serious injury.

As soon as the matter was reported to him, Superintendent A. J. McMahon of the Tennessee and North Carolina railroad offered every assistance to I. L. Councill the general manager of the Transcontinental railroad. An engine was sent from Crestmont carrying Dr. J. Walter McMahan to the scene. Doctors Holland and Bingham of Newport and J. R. Cates, T. & N. C. surgeon of Hartford were taken to the scene by the Tennessee and North Carolina railroad at 9 a. m. Mr. J. E. Craddock, the general manager of the Champion Lumber Company sent food to the camp at noon for the physicians, injured and workers, and at 3 p. m. the T. & N. C. ran a special train to Newport for the purpose of carrying back to the scene coffins for the dead, and all in all, the Tennessee and North Carolina railroad officials did everything in their power to help their arrival company in its hour of need.

After communicating with the prison authorities at Raleigh, Capt. Hoskins had a grave, seven by ten dug on the side of the mountain, just above the scene of the accident, and after a suit of clothes had been purchased for the victims, and coffins delivered from Newport, the remains were interred, white men doing the work. Having no place to stay, Capt. Hoskins marched his injured prisoners over the mountain to Waterville, where they were quartered in a box car for the night, pending the construction of another camp for them. The three negroes most seriously injured, two of whom it is stated will most likely die, were carried over a pass on a stretcher and the usual spectacle of white men of that section carrying negroes was witnessed. At Waterville, the three more seriously injured were taken from their improvised stretchers and placed in the cough box which had brought the coffins, and with the three injured in two boxes, they were brought to Newport and were taken to Raleigh early Monday morning. One of the injured had a broken leg, broken ribs and a scalp wound and while the physicians were working on him it was necessary to take an axe and prize open the shackle which bound his leg, just below one of the breaks. Another had a dislocated hip, and numerous

wounds and the third was suffering from internal injuries.

It is stated that the accident will not effect the work of the Transcontinental people in any way and that a new camp will be located near the scene of Sunday's accident.

BOND FOR THE SEWER WORK

Construction Company Sends Its
Bond—Lease on Crusher
Expires.

The Board of Aldermen held its regular meeting Friday night and the coming of the storm interrupted the meeting, causing the Board to make a hasty adjournment. It was reported, that while the transcripts and records, etc., had been sent to the Bond house, that time for the passing on same had not arrived and it was expected that it would be about ten days before the bonds were approved. The bond of the American Light and Water Company of Chicago, the contractors who will do the work, arrived and it is made with the Fidelity Company of Baltimore, one of the strongest companies in the United States.

The town will very shortly be without a rock quarry as the contract by which they have the use of the Stokely quarry at the end of the bridge expires in September and the aldermen are confronted with the urgency of getting out some rock during the next few months, for their paving work.

At present, Horace Mann has the crusher in use and his contract for the sub-work expires July 1, but inasmuch as there is still much work for him to do, he will find it difficult to give up the crusher at this time, yet the board must positively have the use of the crusher for two months before their contract expires, as it is generally understood that the Stokely Brothers & Co., will not renew their contract with the city.

The highway committee was instructed Friday night to confer with the Stokely Brothers & Co., and ascertain whether the corporation's contract could be extended, providing it was found possible to let Mr. Mann continue to use the crusher for the purpose of getting the corporation streets in shape.

Alderman Stokely wants some sidewalks built to Eastport and he offered to furnish the water for the work on the hill, if the paving would be undertaken at once.

GOVERNMENT TAKES NOTICE

The Government takes recognition of the Memphis-to-Bristol Highway. At the request of the Memphis-to-Bristol Highway Association, the Office of Public Roads of the Department of Agriculture sending Mr. Paul D. Sargent, the assistant Director Tennessee to go over, and make a preliminary survey of the proposed routes of the Highway.

Mr. Sargent started his work at Memphis, Tenn., Monday, the 19th, proceeding in Automobiles and other conveyances over the route. He will be accompanied by James Palmer, Chairman of the Commission of Eleven, Charles C. Gilbert, Secretary the five Commissioners for each division, and the County engineer in each County.

It will take about ten days to go over the various routes, at which time Mr. Sargent will make a detailed report to the Government as to what will be necessary for an detail survey.

The fact that the government is to assist in this great state movement is to those of our people who have labored so hard to build this Highway and it is needless to say that the surveying party will be royally entertained on the various routes, through the state.

ROAD TRAIN TO STOP HERE

Schedule for East Tennessee
Road Improvement Train.

CONCLUDES TOUR HERE

Several Government Experts Will
Address the People of Cocke
County Saturday Afternoon,
July 8th, at 2 O'Clock.—Every
Farmer Should Attend.

The good roads train under auspices of the Southern Railway and the Virginia and Southwestern Railway in connection with the office of public roads of the department of agriculture, comes into the State Tuesday, and the schedule of that train from June 26 to July 8, lies within this state, between Cleveland and Bristol and Newport.

The train will be in Newport on its last day, stopping here Saturday, July 8 at 2 p. m., and there should be a big crowd here on that occasion.

The feature of this train will be the free stereopticon lectures delivered on building good roads, when practical instructions will be given along this line by experts from the office of good roads. These lectures and demonstrations will be given by D. H. Winslow and H. C. Wells, superintendent of road construction, U. S. department of agriculture, while W. J. Hurlburt, agent of the land and industrial department of the Southern Railway, and representatives of the American Highway association and of the state will accompany the train.

It is stated the Southern Railway's primary object in conducting this train is to give practical instructions in the building and maintenance of improved roads with the view of inducing their construction and the saving of millions of dollars annually to farmers in the movement of their crops to the railway. On board the train lectures will be given at the following hours:

SOUTHERN RAILWAY	
June 26.....Cleveland.....	10 00 am
June 27.....Athens.....	10 00 am
June 28.....Sweetwater.....	10 00 am
June 29.....London.....	10 00 am
June 30.....Coal Creek.....	10 00 am
June 30.....Harriman.....	2 00 pm
July 1.....Maryville.....	10 00 am
July 1.....Luttrell.....	3 00 pm
July 3.....Jefferson City.....	10 00 am
July 4.....Greeneville.....	10 00 am
July 5.....Johnson City.....	10 00 am
July 6.....Bristol.....	10 00 am

V. & S. W. RAILWAY	
July 6.....Gate City.....	2 00 pm
July 7.....Rogersville.....	10 00 am

SOUTHERN RAILWAY	
July 8.....Morristown.....	10 00 am
July 8.....Newport.....	2 00 pm

GOVERNOR HOOPER UNABLE TO ATTEND

George R. Armstrong of Hawkins county came to Newport Friday for the purpose of conferring with Gov. Hooper and extending to the chief executive of the State the invitation to be present and deliver an address upon the occasion of the dedication of the pressmen's home at Hale Springs. Mr. Armstrong was unsuccessful, however, in his mission and was unable to get the governor to attend, because of his present physical condition.

FOUR CHILDREN DIE ATE POISONED BERRIES

Fayette, Ala. June 19.—In three hours after two children of John Lubblefield had eaten blackberries, which they found near their home at Eldridge today, they died of poisoning. Two children of James Kelley, who lives in the same community, died from the same cause. It is suspected that the blackberries become infected with the 17-year locust and that the poison reached the berries eaten by the children. Many other children have been poisoned in the same manner and the deaths have caused a sensation in Fayette county.

LEGISLATORS GET TOGETHER

Crump is Reported to Have
Made Deal With Fusionists.

GOV. HOOPER AT NASHVILLE

Prospects of An Agreement Sends
the Chief Executive Back to
His Work.—Some Details of
the Proposed Agreement With
Memphis Mayor.

THE end of the legislative deadlock seems to be in sight. That this is the general belief is shown in the fact that Governor Hooper left Newport Tuesday evening for Nashville, to be present if a legislative quorum is secured. Mayor Crump of Memphis, Major Stahlman of Nashville and Chairman Newell Sanders and other Fusion leaders, are reported to have reached an agreement. Stratton is to be placed on the election board. Crump's man is to be made election commissioner of Shelby county and Crump is to get whatever Memphis legislation he can through the aid of the Fusion leaders. In return he is to deliver the Shelby delegation to the Fusionists and no disturbance is to be made in the present election laws.

By the issuance Saturday of a call for a meeting for Wednesday night of the fusion members of the general assembly a new phase was placed on the political situation. The call was signed by J. J. B. Johnsonius, of the democrat wing, and J. P. K. Marshall of the republican wing.

While the coming together of the fusionists in Nashville Wednesday night does not absolutely mean that the legislature will again be in session, it is believed by those politically well informed that the general assembly will have a quorum on the following day, and unless some unexpected hitch occurs, that all legislation of interest to the state at large and to the various communities will be considered and the state's appropriation bill provided for.

From both sides have come evidences of a desire to have the legislature again in session with a working membership present. That such a desire exists among the fusionists, the call for a conference of all the fusion members on Wednesday evening, is sufficient evidence.

A growing belief has been manifested all over the state in the proposition that the rump session of the legislature had been largely due to a play for strategical advantage by candidates who are in a receptive mood for gubernatorial honors, which craving, honorable though it may be, should not be permitted to block the business of the state.

Senator Adams, and others, have called attention to the desirability of the legislature coming together and passing needed legislation. And it seems that the sometimes regulars are in a mood to look with favor on another session of the legislature, while that sentiment among the fusionists also is pronounced.

MILLER OF SHELBY STATEMENT.
Among the events of Saturday, which tended to crystallize the sentiment for a resumption of business, was the very frank statement of Representative Miller of Shelby. Mr. Miller spared no words in his summary of the situation and his biting references to the fall of five members elected as fusionists was a center shot. From all parts of the state came comment on the letter.

It was freely and confidently predicted Saturday night that the step taken by the fusionists in calling a conference of their forces was the beginning of the end of the legislative tie-up, and that within twenty days, or less (Continued on page 7)

SEN. LEA SAVES LIFE OF WIFE

Heroically Sacrifices a Quart
of His Own Blood.

OPERATION WAS SUCCESS

Hope for Mrs. Lea's Recovery
Had Been Abandoned When
the Senator Insisted That His
Blood Be Transfused to the
Sufferer.

Washington, June 19.—United States Senator Luke Lea, of Tennessee, to save the life of his stricken wife, heroically sacrificed a quart of his blood at Georgetown hospital yesterday and tonight hope for Mrs. Lea's recovery, which had almost been abandoned, is practically assured.

The youngest senator of the nation lies near the bedside of his wife recuperating his strength.

Mrs. Lea's condition, serious for some time, became alarming Sunday after an operation the day before. Her strength, because of lack of blood, was gone and vitality was fast ebbing away. Senator Lea demanded that a transfusion operation be performed and prepared at once to submit to the ordeal. Attending physicians and surgeons made arrangements immediately and the operation which followed was declared to have been successful. Senator Lea withstood the operation well, though it left him so weakened that for hours he could not stand alone, but gratification over the revivifying effect it had upon his wife was inexpressible. Surgeons assured him that without the sacrifice Mrs. Lea could have lived but a few hours.

It will be two or three days before Mrs. Lea is altogether out of danger. At present her symptoms are favorable. It is expected Senator Lea will be able to leave his room in a few days.

When the heroic effort in Mrs. Lea's behalf became imperative and transfusion operation was determined upon, Senator Lea, athletic in stature, would not consent to anything but that a sacrifice of his own blood to her vanishing strength be made. But because of the prime factor in transfusion operations that bloods be fusible, tests were hastily ordered. Before the analysis was complete the surgeons, fearing that death might be swifter than they thought, became alarmed at Mrs. Lea's condition and decided to try the operation anyway. Just as the senator's arm had been bared and a tube inserted in an artery, word came that the bloods of the husband and wife were fusible. The other end of the tube was connected with an incision in Mrs. Lea's arm and the blood began to flow from his veins to those of his wife.

The transfusion continued for about an hour and a half. The patient responded to the treatment from the first. Gradually the color was restored to the lips and cheeks of the frail sufferer but as Mrs. Lea's color was restored, the flush faded from the cheeks of her husband. His thoughts was not of himself and when the transfusion had continued for an hour and a half he importuned the surgeons not to arrest the operation while there was the possibility of a doubt as to the outcome in Mrs. Lea's case. But the surgeons, realizing the weakening effects of such a drain on the senator's system, eventually staunching the flow. After the operation, Senator Lea fell to the floor in a faint. He was immediately placed in bed and tonight is making splendid recovery of his strength.

Not the least favorable element in his recovery is his buoyant mental attitude in consequence of Mrs. Lea's improvement. With the assistance of a friend he was able to walk to his wife's bedside today.